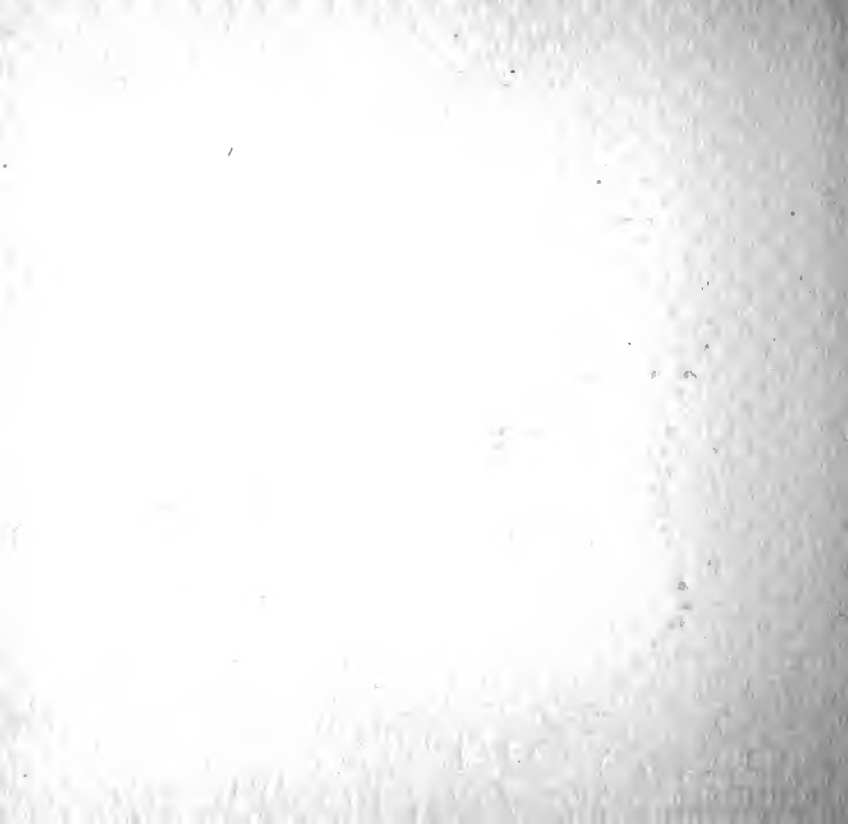


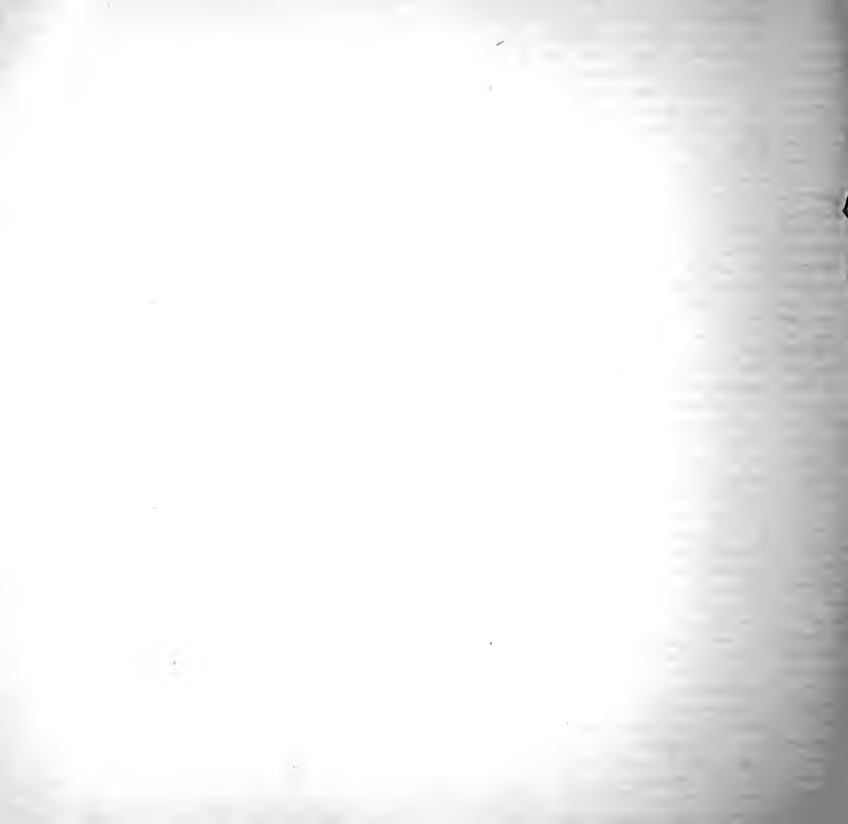
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Bitter Sweet Emblems
for Christmas-tide.







BITTER=SWEET EMBLEMS
FOR CHRISTMAS=TIDE.

33 By
Annie C. McLean



New York,
Hurd & Parsons,
1887

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Hard & Parsons,
New York.

Oh, my pretty Bitter-sweet,

My scarlet berries dear,

What a joyful sight to greet

Your smiling faces here,

With your hearts of crimson, wide

Open for the Christmas-tide.

Glowing ever warm and bright

Above the frozen snow,

A symbol fair of love and light

Where life is cold below.

To bid the long-closed heart, be wide

Open for the Christmas-tide.

To all who would your name entreat,

You teach a lesson, too,

That bitter mingles with the sweet

Of life, — the whole way through —

And wake their hearts in wisdom, wide

Open for the Christmas-tide.



So that, my Bitter-sweet, is why

I bless your glad return.

Because you raise my thoughts on high,

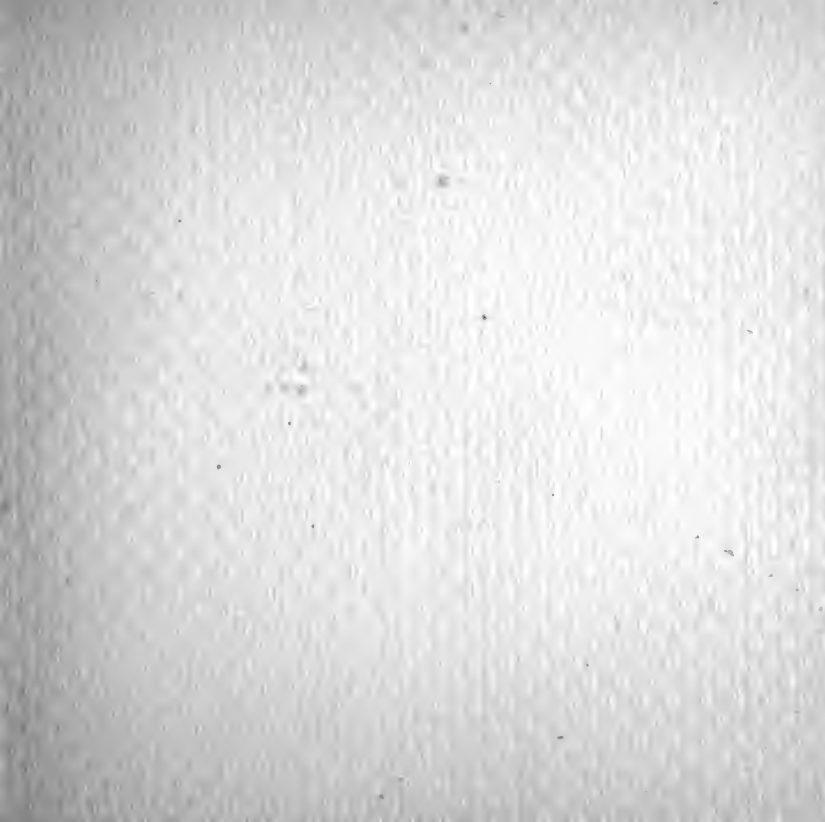
The truths of life to learn.

And keep my heart in welcome, wide

Open for the Christmas-tide.

ANNIE C. MCQUEEN.





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